कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री दिलिप राय): (क) चूंकि कोककर कोयले की मांग उत्पादन से अधिक होती है, अतः देश में कोयले की मांग को पूरा करने हेतु अकोककर कोयले का पर्याप्त उत्पादन किया जाता है।

(ख) कोयला संरक्षण एवं विकास अधिनियम के प्रावधानों के अंतर्गत, कोककर कोयले पर प्रति टन 4.25 रु. उत्पादकर लगाया जाता है। इस उत्पाद कर से प्राप्त राशि का एक भाग उन स्थानों पर आधारभूत सरचना संबंधी सुविधाओं के लिए उपलब्ध करवाया जाता है जहां इसकी आवश्यक्ता है।

Increase in Demand and Supply Gap in Coal

3529. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAP BIRLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the comparative increase in' the demand and supply gap in coal at the end of the Eighth Plan period and whether it is anticipated to be widened by the end of the Ninth Plan period vis-a-vis the decline in the coal out put durmg the two plan periods;

(b) whether considering the existing coal mining scenario Government have considered the question of attracting serious investment for commercial coal mining, projects in the country by private sector, both by domestic and foreign; and

(fi) it so, what are the details thereof?

THE IidlNISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) The demand and supply of ooal at the end of the Eight Five Yew Plan and as projected by the Planning Conmission *fat* the teiminal year of the Ninth Five Year Plan ire u given below:—

(In million tonnes)

Terminal Year	Demand	Supply	Gap
Eighth Five Year Plan (1996-97)	325.00	286.35	38.65
Ninth Five year Plan (2001-02)	412.20	370.60	41.60

Actually, the demand materialisation was only 286.35 millon tonnes in 1996-97.

(b) and (c) Coal mining by private sector is not permitted as per the Coal Mines Nationalisation Act 1973, except in cases of captive mining for end uses such as power generation, steel, sponge iron, and cement production. Captive mining permission have been given to 21 parties for 17 blocks.

Caving in of Kuju Coal Mines

3530. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some miners were hurried alive and some were critically injured when a layer of number 36 Kuju coalmines of the Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) caved on 9th June, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some inquiry has been instituted in the matter;

(d) if so, what steps have been taken ID prevent such incidents in fututre;

(e) what compensation has been paid to the kith and kin of the dead; and

(f) the punishment given to the negligents in the inatter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) It has been reported by Coal India Limited (CIL) that in the

third shift of 8th June, 1998, at about 1.15 A.M. (of 9.6.99) at 36th level junction of Kuiu ooal mine of Centtal